

# Eastern Alliance for Production Katahdins

## Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

March 24, 2021

Present: Brad Carothers, Roxanne Newton, Tom Hodgman, Kathy Bielek, Robert Walker, Lee Wright and Lisa Weeks.

President Brad Carothers called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

### Old Business

- Roxanne moved that the minutes from the last meeting be approved as written. Tom seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### New Business

#### Committee Reports:

Communications Committee – Roxanne, Kathy, Robert, Lisa, Brad

- Roxanne and Isabel have started working on the spring newsletter which is due out April 15. The next newsletter is planned for early June in time to have more details about the symposium.

Symposium & Sale Committee – Brad, Lisa, Lee, Robert, Kathy

- Brad and Katie will prepare an email blast for members announcing the symposium. They will work with Robert to send in the next week or so.
- The schedule for the symposium was discussed. The morning will be geared towards beginners. An informal tech help desk is planned from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM to help people with data entry into Pedigree Master, etc. This will provide a specific time for help, as well as provide a time buffer for people arriving in the morning and/or those unloading sheep.
- The afternoon program will cover more advanced topics. Possible speakers suggested were Dr. Andrew Weaver on genomics and Dr. Scott Greiner on making sense of the numbers. The program will end by 5:00 PM, which is when the on-line sale will begin. No Friday evening meal is planned. Lee confirmed that Andrew plans to attend and is willing to speak. The Symposium Committee will work out the details.
- There was discussion of having the educational sessions available virtually for members only.
- Different options were discussed for lunch. Our contract with the fairgrounds states that outside vendors must have a health certificate, which may eliminate the 4H group as a possible vendor. Lee and Brad will work on getting bids from local vendors.
- Robert reported that in order to apply for a Kreg grant, regional groups must be recognized as such by KHSI. They will need a letter of request with our bylaws submitted to the KHSI BOD for

voting at the next meeting (tomorrow night). Brad and Robert have already submitted the necessary paperwork. The Kreg grant could be used to cover the cost of the venue, speakers and meals. We have to apply 60 days before the event.

- The sale will be an on-line sale with animals encouraged to be present, but not required. All bidding and money will be done on-line through Willoughby. The rules for the sale will be modeled after KHSI. Dr. Fletcher will provide health certificates, but only for the animals who are physically at the sale. Health certificates for sales of animals who are not present are not EAPK's concern and will be arranged by the seller. Dr. Fletcher can charge the individual or EAPK. He will need someone on call looking up requirements for the state of purchase. Some states can be a problem. We need to let people know that no testing can be done at the sale, in case a state has specific testing requirements. Buyers should know their state's restrictions and plan accordingly.
- The sale will be racehorse style with bidding ending five minutes after the last bid. There was concern that the continuation of bids could extend the end time of the sale past noon, making it difficult for people who want to get on the road. The group discussed other options but no decision was made. Brad will reach out to Willoughby to explore other options.
- Willoughby will handle all bidding and money. There will be a \$250 sale floor. In the event of a no sale, the consignor will still be responsible for paying the commission and entry fee. Individual consignors are able to put a higher floor on their animals, but in the case of a no sale, the commission charged will be based on the higher amount.
- Sale classes will be the usual Yearling Rams, Yearling Ewes, Ram Lambs, Ewe Lambs and Pens of Ewes/Ewe Lambs, plus Mature Rams. We want to encourage the sale of quality mature, proven NSIP rams, but don't want the sale to become a dumping ground. Several options were discussed, including requiring 50 progeny enrolled in NSIP. A \$500 floor was agreed on for mature rams and there will be a limit of one per farm. Tom made a motion to that effect and Roxanne seconded. The motion passed.
- Lee reported that we can get into the barn on Thursday evening for setup of gates, pens, etc. We have to do our own setup, tear down and cleanup. He will check on the possibility of having a 4H group or someone help with the cleanup. Sellers will be responsible for providing their own bedding.

Next meeting is April 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm EST

Respectfully submitted

Kathy Bielek